

MODIS Technical Team Meeting
Thursday, May 12, 2005
Building 33, Room H118

Vince Salomonson chaired the meeting. In attendance were Jack Xiong, Eric Vermote, Chris Justice, Gary Alcott, Robert Wolfe, Dorothy Hall, and Barbara Conboy, with Yolanda Harvey taking the minutes.

1.0 Upcoming Events

- IGARSS 2005, July 25-29, Seoul, South Korea. Abstracts deadline past (December 8, 2004). <http://www.igarss05.org/>

2.0 Meeting Minutes

2.1 General Discussion

Salomonson suggested that as we contemplate doing a special issue on MODIS results and if we are aiming toward publishing papers for JGR, they need to be pretty science-oriented. In his opinion, product performance/algorithm refinement updates are more appropriate for TGARS, RSE or similar journals. Justice agreed, and noted that we could use more opportunities to publish longer-length works, such as in a MODIS/ASTER book. Salomonson said he thinks that increasing numbers of good science using MODIS are appearing in publications, but, as yet, there may not be enough results from the MODIS Science Team to make a good case for a special issue publication in the JGR. Vermote noted that if we look at product accuracy as it relates to climate change/detection, we would have plenty of material. Salomonson also observed that he believes a trend is growing wherein folks recognize that the VIIRS (MODIS-like) instrument is going to be on NPP and NPOESS and this is helping to motivate research using MODIS knowing that such capability will exist over the long-term.

Salomonson reported that he's not heard of any feedback yet on the Terra Senior Review.

2.2 Instrument Status

2.2.1 Aqua MODIS

Xiong reported that there was a minor issue with the Aqua MODIS SRCA, and they are looking into it. It seems to be SRCA internal lamp issues at the moment; these are used for tracking spatial and spectral performance. So far there has been no impact on science data.

2.2.2 Terra MODIS

No new issues reported.

2.3 DAAC

Alcott reported that the L1 processing is doing well. The DAAC is working on issues associated with EP-TOMS data not being available. Vermote noted that he is not planning on looking at any of the existing alternatives (e.g., SSBUV and TOVS)

right now, as it would take too much time. Otherwise, it has been a pretty quiet week.

2.4 SDST

Masuoka reported on some of the issues related to Ozone data. Vermote and Nazmi El Saleous are looking at GDAS, while Vermote's preference seems to be for TOMS data. The TOMS data are more accurate, so for Collection 5 they are thinking about going to an ozone product with only ancillary data. Vermote noted that Collection 5 is not an issue at the moment, as they are more concerned with Collection 4. They are looking for evidence that it is the only available product that is up to specifications. There is more time to sort out Collection 5 later. Masuoka asked if TOMS is stable, and Alcott responded that it should be (it is in testing now). There are a lot of users of TOMS data from the direct readout stations (NOAA products are similarly popular).

Wolfe asked when they can start the data in the forward processing stream, and Alcott replied that they'd be ready early next week. Wolfe said that they need to get this change into the GDAS, and Vermote said that they can make it now, as he thinks it's good enough. Masuoka asked what exactly they're going to want in the forward stream, and Vermote said that they're flexible, so they should go based on the SDST schedule. Wolfe suggested putting it in production today at the GDAS, into the forward processing stream until it is verified and TOMS becomes available. Reprocessing can be held off until it is convenient.

Masuoka reported that he had discussed the PGE06 delivery with Steve Platnick; it is likely to be put into processing in mid-June, but it is not for sure.

Masuoka reported that they ran into some problems with the Land CMG product that Vermote is working on; taking care of this will push the final science test to the middle of June. This in turn pushes the complete Land processing out to February of 2006, and Justice wants to start processing in December. Thus, SDST will have to normalize their schedule/processing accordingly. Justice noted that he just wants to make sure that there is a plan to make sure that the schedules don't slip too much for Collection 5. He does not necessarily have a fixed date in mind.

Masuoka noted that the HQ "product review" topic came up at meeting today, and he thinks that we might see something on this in the next couple of months. This will be some combination of MODIS products, on the basis of DAACs and instruments. Justice added that this is an incremental step in moving toward more streamlined data sets that are measurement-specific, and the review's aim is to get a feel whether or not all of these products are actually needed. It is also to reduce the cost of data archiving and distribution.

3.0 Action Items

3.1 New Action Items

No new action items.

3.2 Old Action Items

3.2.1 Robert Wolfe will check on the status of the ephemeris problem on Aqua.
Status: Open.